Docket No.: 245402004000

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Takashi KONDO et al.

Application No.: 10/040,379 Confirmation No.: 5474

Filed: January 9, 2002 Art Unit: 2168

For: IMAGE DATA RETRIEVAL APPARATUS AND METHOD CAPABLE OF

FACILITATING RETRIEVAL OF DESIRED IMAGE DATA FROM IMAGE DATABASE

Examiner: H. Q. Pham

## REQUEST TO WITHDRAW APPLICATION FROM APPEAL PROCESS

MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants previously filed a Notice of Appeal and an Appeal Brief. An Examiner's Answer was mailed November 27, 2007.

Applicants are filing an RCE and an Amendment concurrently, and request that

Application No.: 10/040,379 2 Docket No.: 245402004000

this application be withdrawn from before the Board of Patent Appeals and treated simply as a Request for Continued Examination.

Dated: January 23, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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